ARKANSAS

BROILER HATCHERY

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE



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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS DOWN 3 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

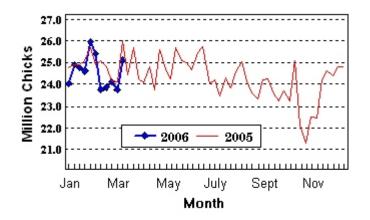
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 25.1 million during the week ending March 18, 2006. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week in 2005, but up 6 percent from the revised previous week, and included 2.9 million chicks shipped in from other states.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.7 million, down 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and down slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 3.2 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 83 percent.

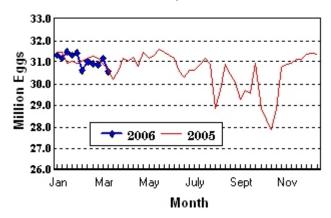
Arkansas hatcheries set 30.6 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending March 18, 2006, down slightly from the same period last year, and down 2 percent from the previous week.

| | NET 1 | PLACEMEN | NTS | CHIC | CKS HATC | HED | EGGS SET | | | |
|---------|--------|----------|------------|--------|----------|-----------|----------|--------|------------|--|
| Week | | | % of | | | % of | | | % of | |
| Ending | 2005 | 2006 | Prev. Year | 2005 | 2006 | Pre. Year | 2005 | 2006 | Prev. Year | |
| | 1,000 | | | 1, | 000 | | 1,000 | | | |
| Feb. 11 | 24,929 | 25,383 | 102 | 25,911 | 26,220 | 101 | 31,020 | 30,591 | 99 | |
| Feb. 18 | 25,110 | 23,786 | 95 | 25,934 | 26,014 | 100 | 31,179 | 31,038 | 100 | |
| Feb. 25 | 24,831 | 23,863 | 96 | 25,908 | 26,109 | 101 | 31,285 | 30,903 | 99 | |
| Mar. 4 | 24,187 | 24,141 | 100 | 25,946 | 25,449 | 98 | 31,198 | 30,868 | 99 | |
| Mar. 11 | 24,126 | 23,761 | 98 | 26,142 | 25,821 | 99 | 30,893 | 31,164 | 101 | |
| Mar. 18 | 26,004 | 25,107 | 97 | 26,406 | 25,709 | 97 | 30,683 | 30,561 | 100 | |

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2005-2006



EGGS SET, 2005 - 2006



BROILEREGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2005

| | EGGS SET (in Thousands) | | | | | CHICKSPLACED (in Thousands) | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Week Ending | | | | 1/ | Week Ending | | | | | 1/ | |
| STATE | 26-Feb | 05-Mar | 12-Mar | 19-Mar | % | 12-Feb | 19-Feb | 26-Feb | 05-Mar | 12-Mar | 19-Mar | % |
| Alabama | 30,476 * | 30,331 | 30,074 | 29,970 | 101 | 21,630 | 21,582 | 21,639 | 21,620 | 21,525 | 21,507 | 97 |
| ARKANSAS | 31,285 * | 31,198 | 30,867 | 30,657 | 97 | 24,929 | 25,110 | 24,831 | 24,187 | 24,126 * | 25,842 | 104 |
| Delaware | 3,929 | 3,955 | 3,906 | 4,071 | 113 | 5,314 | 5,039 | 6,723 | 5,948 | 6,085 | 5,819 | 108 |
| Florida | 1,357 | 1,358 | 1,359 | 1,358 | 101 | 1,500 | 1,540 | 1,437 | 1,503 | 1,305 | 1,483 | 91 |
| Georgia | 33,611 | 33,030 | 33,375 | 33,381 | 104 | 26,377 | 26,777 | 27,162 | 27,800 * | 27,155 | 27,427 | 105 |
| Kentucky | 7,298 * | 7,265 | 7,049 * | 6,735 | 102 | 6,305 | 6,368 | 6,286 | 5,679 | 6,485 * | 6,131 | 109 |
| Louisiana | 4,043 | 4,044 | 4,075 * | 4,135 | 111 | 3,830 | 3,814 | 3,746 | 3,581 | 4,101 * | 3,514 | 89 |
| Maryland | 8,931 | 8,972 | 8,977 | 8,978 | 101 | 4,745 | 5,697 | 4,214 | 5,122 | 4,921 | 4,899 | 96 |
| Mississippi | 19,277 | 19,314 | 19,465 | 19,617 | 103 | 18,184 | 17,890 | 17,963 | 17,817 | 17,544 | 17,492 | 107 |
| N. Carolina | 18,549 * | 18,870 | 18,682 | 18,818 | 98 | 14,668 | 14,893 | 14,556 | 15,140 | 14,881 | 15,097 | 103 |
| Oldahoma | 6,426 | 6,386 | 6,508 * | | 96 | 5,258 | 5,065 | 5,560 | 6,359 | 5,452 | 5,214 | 94 |
| Pennsylvania | 3,899 * | 4,036 * | 4,286 | 4,073 | 101 | 2,878 | 3,104 | 3,146 * | 3,108 * | 3,078 * | 2,813 | 101 |
| S. Carolina | 5,279 | 5,281 | 5,283 | 5,247 | 142 | 4,722 | 4,560 | 4,449 | 3,957 | 4,633 | 4,277 | 104 |
| Texas | 15,240 | 15,155 | 15,119 | 15,094 | 100 | 12,814 | 12,768 | 12,714 | 12,739 | 12,897 | 12,897 | 104 |
| Virginia | 6,528 | 6,525 | 6,554 | 6,748 | 100 | 5,385 | 5,220 | 5,372 | 4,447 | 4,997 | 5,401 | 95 |
| CA,MO,TN,WV | <u>17,909</u> | <u>18,41</u> 4 | <u>17,881</u> | 17 <u>,66</u> 0 | 99 | 16,965 | <u>16,405</u> * | 1 <u>7,108</u> | <u>17,270</u> | <u> </u> | <u>16,202</u> | <u> 106</u> |
| Total 2005 | 214,037 * | 214,134 * | 213,460 * | 212,827 | | 175,504 | 175,832 * | 176,906 * | 176,277 * | 176,779 * | 176,015 | |
| Total 2004 | 210 <u>,86</u> 4 | <u>210,313</u> | 210 <u>,60</u> 1 | 210,144 | | 167 <u>,26</u> 5 | <u>16</u> 7 <u>,39</u> 0_ | <u>168,31</u> 9_ | <u>169,20</u> 8_ | <u>170,698</u> | <u>171,78</u> 3 | |
| %Prev. Year | 102 | 102 | 101 | 101 | | 105 | 105 | 105 | 104 | 104 | 102 | |
| Approximate Marketing Date 2005 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

^{*} Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 213 million eggs during the week ending March 19, 2005. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 84 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 3 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 176 million chicks for meat production during the week ending March 19, 2005. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2005 through March 19, 2005 were 1.92 billion, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.